

**PROCESS FOR THE PURIFICATION OF TOLUENE
DIISOCYANATE INCORPORATING A DIVIDING-WALL
DISTILLATION COLUMN FOR THE FINAL PURIFICATION**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Toluene diisocyanate is recovered from a crude distillation feed comprising less than 2% by weight of phosgene by

- (a) fractionating the crude distillation feed comprising less than 2% by weight of phosgene to remove the solvent and optionally the reaction residues to produce a crude toluene diisocyanate feed comprising less than 20% by weight of solvent and
- (b) separating the crude toluene diisocyanate feed comprising less than 20% by weight of solvent in a divided-wall distillation column into four product fractions P1 – P4.

P1 is a vapor phase low-boiler and solvent-enriched gas stream,
P2 is a low-boiler and solvent-enriched product,
P3 is a high boiler-enriched bottoms product comprising toluene diisocyanate and
P4 is a toluene diisocyanate product stream lean in low-boilers, high-boilers and reaction residues.